



## Sisters leave their legacy at Avila University

Ryan Cook  
Staff Writer

The sisters at Avila have imbedded a long-lasting legacy on the Avila community and will not be soon forgotten.

"As we let go more and more, the laity will take over more and more. Hopefully, like parents, as the sisters go, we just hope we have instilled the right values in the children," Sister Ruth Stuckel said about the four nuns that have recently left Avila. The four sisters, Sister Marie Georgette Eshbacher, Sister Ann Dominic Tassone, Sister Ellen Marie Gavin, and Sister Marie Tucker have all left Avila in the past year.

Sister Marie Georgette, passed away recently and was living in a retirement home for six months while her cancerous condition worsened. She came to Avila in 1961 and was chair of the education department. As described by Sister Ruth, Sister Marie Georgette had a German background with headstrong traits and an impeccable work ethic. She was very unassuming, as described by her peers, and had an ability to take on a job without being asked and had the knowledge to get it done. She did all this while being mild mannered and gentle toward everyone she worked with.

Sister Ann came to Avila in 1963. She moved to a retirement community in St. Louis.

she was often seen at every on-campus athletic event she could attend. "Perhaps the lesser known of the

involved with her students and fellow staff members was Sister Ellen Marie Gavin. Sister Ellen Marie, known simply as Sister Ellen, worked in the Advancement Office, organizing and recording the monetary gifts donated to Avila. When describing Sister Ellen, Sister Ruth and Sister Marie Joan both described her as gentle, quiet and kind.

"She always had people coming to ask for her to pray for them, insisting *she* do it, even if [she] wasn't available for the request. She was just that sociable," Sister Marie Joan said.

The effects these sisters' absences will have on Avila are soon to be seen. Both Sister Marie Joan and Sister Ruth believe

that the institution's mission is to touch people's lives.

With only four sisters left on campus, the absence of the physical presence of the nuns will affect the community, but the hope is that the faculty and staff newly hired will have the same values to carry on the legacy, heritage and tradition these sisters have left on the Avila community.



The 15 Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet gathered together in 1999. Today only four live in Avila's convent.

CMR Files

"Sister Ann was as enthusiastic as she was relentless," Sister Marie Joan Harris, a long time friend, said.

She worked in the math department and insisted her students be just as enthusiastic about the subject as she was. She frequently sought out absent students from her class to ask where they were and why they did not attend class that day. Sister Ann was also widely known by the student body for her involvement with the athletic teams. Before she left Avila,

sisters that have left the Avila community, Sister Marie Tucker, was the most interesting," Sister Marie Joan said. Sister Marie Tucker taught at all levels of education but was known for her work at Avila with the international students.

"She really had the unique capacity to relate to people of all backgrounds," Sister Marie Joan said. "This talent was developed simply from her gift of loving people in general."

Another sister that was very much

In 2003, Avila lost Sister Marie Georgette to cancer and Sisters Ellen Marie and Ann Dominic to retirement.



Sr. Marie Georgette Eshbacher

CMR Files



Sr. Ellen Marie Gavin

CMR Files



Sr. Ann Dominic Tassone

CMR Files

Picture of Sister Marie Tucker was unavailable.



## News Briefs

Six Avila students in Art and Design had work selected out of 20,000 entries for 2003 Best of College Photography Annual. The students are Erin Barnes, Michael Huntsucker, Donna Tywoniuk, Linn Mayer, Noami Hase and Francesca Zizza.

### The David W. Miller Awards for Student Journalists:

Candidates may apply for the award by submitting up to three samples of published work accompanied by a one-page letter describing the articles and why they were chosen for submission. The samples of published work must have appeared in a campus publication during the preceding academic year. The candidate can win up to \$1,000 and a certificate and will be announced annually. For more information or

to apply, contact:

Andrew Mytelka  
Senior Editor  
*The Chronicle of Higher Education*

1255 23rd Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037  
andrewmytelka@chronicle.com

Join Avila Dance Team members Mandy Freeman and Liz DiGirlando for aerobic classes on Mondays, March 31-April 28 and Pilates classes on Wednesdays, April 2-April 30. Both classes will meet in the Mabee Fieldhouse, Multipurpose Room from 5-6 p.m.

Campus Ministry will begin praying the rosary on Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend these prayers for peace. Contact Dave Armstrong for more information at ex. 2423.

The Crisis Response Team will have a support group available to all members of the Avila community, beginning Tuesday, April 1 at 5 p.m., Stana Eager, Carol Frevert and Dave Armstrong will facilitate a support group to bring together those who feel the impact of the war to talk about their feelings and concerns about the war. The support group will meet in the Activities Conference Room.

## Community Relations wins awards for exceptional work

Shannon Degitz  
News Editor

Avila's Community Relations team was among the top winners of the Admissions Marketing Report Advertising Awards. More than 700 schools from all 50 states entered the competition. The Admissions Awards is the largest and longest running awards competition in higher education in the country.

"It's always an honor to get recognition from one's peers, especially a group that specifically focuses on higher education," Karen Baum, associate director of community relations, said.

"The Community Relations department is an all encompassing marketing department. They approach their

job positively and enthusiastically and effectively achieve the work that a huge department would," Allison Hanna, web developer, said.

Avila won the Gold Award for Newspaper Advertising. The winning piece was a full-page color ad that appeared in *The Kansas City Star* on July 17, 2002 that featured the name change from college to university.

"There was only one Gold Award in our category. This means it was judged the best in the United States," Karl Yehle, director of community relations, said.

Avila also won a Bronze award for the T-shirt design for Admission's All About Avila Day. The shirt featured the theme "Test Drive." Two merit awards were won for the new Avila University logo and the four-color

theater brochure.

The judges consisted of a panel of educational marketers, marketing and advertising creative directors, marketing and advertising professionals, and the editorial board of Admissions Marketing Report.

"It is exciting that a university with a small department can compete with other schools with huge resources. I am very proud of Avila," Baum said.

Students, too, are proud of the accomplishments the Community Relations Department.

"I saw the ad and thought it was really good," junior Kassie Graziano said. "Being a graphic design major, I thought the ad was well photographed and that the overall design was good. Plus, it showed the diversity of the students really well."

## Avila students and faculty speak out against the war

Shannon D. Peery  
Staff Writer

Protesters around the world are speaking out against the war in Iraq, and among them are Avila students and faculty.

People lined 47th Street on the Country Club Plaza carrying peace signs. Drivers passing by honked for peace. Priests and nuns, mothers and fathers, professionals, laborers and WWII veterans stood to oppose the war in Iraq before and after the bombs were dropped.

Roena Haynie, chair of the social science division, was sitting on the side of the empty fountain beating her drum.

"I'm very distressed about this preemptive strike. I think it is extremely dangerous to establish a new policy... Iraq has been devastated by sanctions," she said before the bombing began.

Haynie has organized a coffee house peace series as a member of the program board of the American Friends Service Committee and has spoken at local churches about peace since Sept. 11, 2001. The AFSC is a Quaker organization dedicated to peace and social change.

Haynie said that other faculty and staff from Avila had attended the rally.

"Avila has a high percentage of people who work 20 to 40 hours a week. It is very difficult to keep up



E. Barnes

Protesters gather each Sunday on the Plaza to speak out against the war in Iraq.

with costs and do anything else but their homework," Haynie said.

Avila graduate Erica Berg, who now teaches at St. Teresa's Academy, has attended three times. She paraphrased Martin Luther King Jr., "You can kill the hater but not the hate."

On March 20, another AFSC member, Ester Holzendorf, staffed the information table.

"The government of the United States of America states that we are going to Iraq to free the people, to liberate them so that they can live in a democracy. What we are doing is bombing them. We support the troops. I have a son over there. I lost a brother and uncle to Vietnam. We have done what we felt we needed to do to defend our country. [The protest] is what our constitution asks us to do... to defend our country. But what we are doing is murder, not defense," Holzendorf said.

On the Avila University campus peace activists expressed themselves more subtly.

"A lot of people have the 'No War' stickers on their cars and the windows of their dorm rooms," freshman Jenni Pike said.

Campus activities, however, provide education and a forum for discussing peaceful means to resolve the conflict with Iraq. Mary K. Myers spoke of 'The Iraq

Experience" on Monday, March 10 in the Marian Center Alumni Lounge. Twenty students and faculty members listened as Myers described the hospitality, helplessness and humanity of a people driven into desperate times by a decade of economic sanctions and wartime. During a desert peace walk in the summer of 2003, Myers toured hospitals with no medicine or equipment, schools with no paper and cities with no sewers or electricity. U.N. sanctions prohibited these items: electrical equipment, building supplies, bandages, shroud material for burials, paper, blankets, incubators for newborns, chlorine for water purification and basic medicine like aspirin.

Myers said military action would make the situation worse.

See Protests p. 3





Photo courtesy of Kira Stockreef

Students at Avila gave up their spring break to travel 800 miles to Nazareth Farm in Salem, W. Va. where they helped poverty stricken area residents for seven days. "Nazareth Farm centers around the Catholic social teachings, which is integral to the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph," Dave Armstrong, campus ministry director and sponsor of the trip, said.

## Protests

Continued from p. 2

"War is outdated with the weapons that are around these days. When they say 'Iraq says' we think of Saddam Hussein. We are not hearing its people for three reasons: big business, big government and big corporate media," she said.

Elizabeth Bohnert, sophomore, attended the talk.

"I believe that it's important to consider other people in these circumstances. Maybe fighting is not the right thing. Talking would be a better medium. We need to know the people on the other side. We are not told what is really going on."

"The majority of people I've talked to are against the war if they know the facts," Pike said.

"We need to develop non-violent means of solving our problems," Sister of St. Francis Jan Cebula said as she marched through the Plaza.

"I think foreign policy absolutely needs to be changed. If we talk about security, we are not going to get it through force. We are going to get

it from human development, feeding people and health care. We are on the wrong road here. We keep emphasizing an arrogant, let's go it alone ideology in the world."

Myers described a talk with a boy in an orphanage in Iraq.

"They were just kids playing around. I asked this boy what he wanted to be when he grew up. He said, 'A pilot.' I said, 'Why?' He said, 'So I can bomb the U.S.'"

Yet on her trip, confirming the power of humanity, she said she saw

Bedouins (shepherds) dance and make music with her American companions. She witnessed American's taking a break from the bus to play soccer with Iraqis. She was given cakes when most people ate toast and salt for breakfast. She was offered pillows on which to sit while her hosts sat on their house's dirt floor.

Humanities professor Sister Ruth Stuckel said that we need wisdom in such fearful times.

"If we could resolve this without war that would be the greater good. War doesn't solve anything. That's what we need to remember. Noncombatants will be hurt."

U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia said to his fellow elected officials March 19, "I weep for my country.... We proclaim a new doctrine of preemption, which is understood by few and feared by many.... We flaunt our superpower status with arrogance. We treat U.N. Security Council members like

ingrates who offend our princely dignity by lifting their heads from the carpet. Valuable alliances are split.... The case this administration tries to make to justify

its fixation with war is tainted by charges of falsified documents and circumstantial evidence. We cannot convince the world of the necessity of this war for one simple reason. This is a war of choice."

Whether on the college campus, the Senate floor or in the streets of the city, people reaffirmed the need for protest and inquiry.

"It's more dangerous not to say something about the war. Get to know what's going on and make your own decision," Pike said.

## Avila celebrates outstanding students for scholar day

Alissa Nicole Solis  
Staff Writer

Every year for Student Scholar Day Avila's staff has the privilege to recognize, honor and celebrate extraordinary students. The celebration this year will take place on April 3 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Whitfield Center conference room.

This year 34 students were nominated by their professors to receive the honor in various majors, including art and design, biology, communication, education, history, nursing, paralegal studies, social work and sociology.

"Any major has possibilities," Professor of Sociology Dave Wissmann said.

Each student has a faculty mentor. Professors work with the student to put together the presentations for Scholar Day. The students present a topic relating to their major such as a video production, poster or portfolio.

The guest speaker for this year's luncheon is Sue Popkess-Vawter who is a researcher at the University of Kansas in the School of Nursing.

The students will receive a plaque given by Tom Gordon, president of Avila. The event is open for all to attend.

"Scholar Day is a way to celebrate a quality of the student's work and reward them for their good work," Wissmann said.

This year's scholars include:

Candice Allen, Nursing  
Amanda Kilgore, Elementary Education  
Maurice Ayers, Nursing  
Cynthia C. Lestyk, Psychology  
Cindy Anders, Paralegal Studies  
Sara Maley, Communication  
Dana Ball, General Studies  
Kimberley Monden, Psychology  
Erin Barnes, Communication  
Elsy Monterroza, Art and Design  
Natasha Boulch, Nursing  
Brett Nedich, Biology  
Kimberly Brim, Communication  
Zeb Palmer, Paralegal Studies  
Susan Burdge, History  
Kathleen A. Parker, Mathematics  
Jason Crow, Sociology  
Ashlynn Ritter, Nursing  
Dana Crowell, Paralegal Studies  
Becca Schunck, Communication  
Shannon M. Dowd, Nursing  
Regina Shell-Barton, Art and Design  
Josh Ellington, Computer Science/Mathematics  
Pamela Simmons, Biology  
Tracy Giammatteo Warriner, Social Sciences  
Jennifer L. Smith, History  
Jessica Harper, General Studies  
Diana Swafford, Biology  
Angela Hermelink, Paralegal Studies  
Rhianna Thomas, Elementary Education  
Jackie Humphrey, Paralegal Studies  
Angie Weatherford, Political Science  
Meta Jackson, Paralegal Studies  
Aaron Weaver, Mathematics

### Avila University

Cordially invites you to the

Third Annual

### Student Leadership Recognition Ceremony



Sunday, April 13, 2003 6:00 PM  
Whitfield Conference Room

Help recognize Avila's outstanding student leaders for their involvement in co-curricular activities on campus. Your attendance will support and encourage student participation and service to the Avila Community.

Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.



## International Student Spotlight

### Pin-Yi Chen

**Joel Ross**  
Staff Writer

Going out. Talking on the phone. Hanging out with friends. Attempting a degree in elementary education. This description fits the profile of an American citizen experiencing typical college life. However, it fits the everyday life of an Avila freshman from Taiwan.

Nineteen-year-old Pin-Yi Chen's way of life and communicative skills parallel that of an American college student so much that if she did not have an accent, one might confuse her for an actual American citizen.

Chen says she likes life in the United States and attributes much of that to the fact that American citizens interact with one another frequently.

"This is a diverse, high-contact society," Chen said. "A person can talk to strangers no matter when. That doesn't happen very often in Taiwan."

Chen also said she has adapted to this diverse, high-contact society.

"I like to go out, talk on the phone, get together with friends and spend lots of time outdoors with different people," Chen said.

In fact, Chen is so fond of the degree to which American citizens interact that she said she wishes Avila had more people.

"The only thing I dislike about Avila is that it's not very big," she said. "I would like to attend a college where there are a lot of people. I would like to be involved in more group activities."

She really loves the communicative

aspect of American society.

"I just love to be around people," Chen said.

According to Avila's Intensive Language and Culture Director Bruce Inwards, the fact that Chen communicates well and often with others is a big part of why her lifestyle strongly resembles that of an American college female.

"I believe Pin-Yi communicates like someone who has been in the United States a while," Inwards said. "If she was not adjusting well in this society she would come in to see me more. She speaks very good English and likes to interact with people. The faster an international student can learn our language and culture, the faster they will make many friends and fit in well in our society. Pin-Yi is also very friendly, funny, and easy to talk to," Inwards said.

It also helps that Chen is easy to get along with. Freshman international business major Miroslav Pavlov pointed out that Chen is very fun to be around.

"She is a very kind and cool person. I did a presentation with her in a communication class and she was a very enjoyable person to work with," Pavlov said. "Pin-Yi interacts well with people and speaks better English than many other international students. Pin-Yi is different from most international students because she communicates so well with others. She also fits in because she has a good



*E. Barnes*

Nineteen-year-old Taiwan native Pin-Yi Chen is adjusting to American life while pursuing an elementary education degree.

personality."

Chen said she really likes the fact that people in America are able to voice their opinions in such a frequent fashion. She mentioned that Avila's class participation policy is different and more interesting than classroom policies in Taiwan.

"I really like it at Avila because more students can give their opinions in class," Chen said. "In Taiwan the students had to listen to the teacher talk most of the time."

One of Chen's hobbies is learning languages other than English.

"I speak Mandarin because that is our language in Taiwan. I can speak

English now too. A major challenge for me is to learn many different languages. I am trying to learn Japanese and Spanish right now," Chen said.

Chen has been given the chance to live a typical college life that many Americans do not get to live. She has adapted to U.S. culture and is taking advantage of her freedom to communicate with others on a large scale. Chen said she will make the United States her home for a while.

"I want to get a bachelor's degree from Avila in elementary education, a master's in teaching, and teach here in the United States someday," Chen said.

#### Monday, April 7th WELLNESS DAY

Come get a free massage!

11-1pm, Marian Centre & Goppert Lobby

BLOOD DRIVE

10-2pm, Goppert Lobby

ANNUAL SPRING FLING VOLLEYBALL

Have fun in the sun with volleyball!

11-1pm, the Quad

#### Tuesday, April 8th

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL vs. LINDENWOOD

2 & 4 pm, Avila Softball Field

Come cheer on the Lady Eagles!

STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY

#### Wednesday, April 9th

PURPLE WEDNESDAY

25% discount on Avila Apparel & Selected

Items at the bookstore.

Show your Avila Spirit!

STUDENT EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION DAY

### So Fresh, So Clean



AU Spring Fling 2003

#### Thursday, April 10th CARNIVAL & COOK-OUT

11-1 pm, the Quad

LASER STORM

Incredible Laser Tag Arena! Free!

9-3 pm, Whitfield Conference Room

#### Friday, April 11th

AVILA FIELD DAY

Come support your favorite team!

11-3 pm, the Quad

3 on 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

2 pm, Blasco Parking Lot

RESIDENCE LIFE APPRECIATION DAY

#### Saturday, April 12th

AVILA BASEBALL vs. BAKER

2 pm, Avila Baseball Field

SPRING FORMAL

Dance to DJ "D-Rok" Free Food & Drinks!

8 pm to midnight, BTA Conference Center

(12411 Wornall) Sponsored by GAP

#### Sunday, April 13th

AVILA BASEBALL vs. LINCOLN

2 pm, Avila Baseball Field

STUDENT LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION

CEREMONY

6 pm Whitfield Conference Room

MASS

8 pm, Foyle Chapel

#### \*SOCIAL WORK CLUB

TOILETRY DRIVE

Bring toiletries for Romanian children

to boxes located in Marian,

Blasco & O'Reilly



## A man of many colors

Katie McRoberts

Staff Writer

Bursts of colored canvas and cleverly titled paintings decorate the previously bare walls of the cafeteria in Marian Center. Oranges, yellows and greens swirled into intoxicating designs fill the room. Students file through the food line, oblivious to the beauty that surrounds them and the artist behind the work.

Silver-black hair pulled back into a ponytail with a beard to match is just one characteristic of this intriguing artist. His artwork decorates the cafeteria while his presence speaks his support for the school. On campus, he will most likely be spotted working diligently in the cafeteria or attending an Avila sporting event. Few students realize that the artist is Jonathan Almblad, director of food services at Avila.

Almblad recently moved to Kansas City in July when Avila hired a new company, Coronet, to provide food to the students. He has traveled and worked in many places and behind his cafeteria mask lies talents of painting, singing, cooking and so much more.

Almblad has been with Coronet for 23 years and has worked at more than 20 different colleges all over the United States. Most recently was St. Clair College in Clinton, Iowa and other places such as Detroit, Chicago, California, Florida, North Dakota and Sante Fe. Almblad stated he enjoys Kansas City the most.

"I have lived in so many places all over the country and this is my favorite city that I've ever lived in. I love it here."

He particularly enjoys the variety of things to do in Kansas City.

"I really enjoy their restaurants,



E. Barnes

Jonathan Almblad, director of food services, stands next to one of his paintings that hangs inside the cafeteria.

incredible museums, its spectacular zoo and live music."

Raised in Detroit, Almblad attended college in Chicago and at Wayne State University in Detroit. He holds two degrees in political science, but is not interested in working in that area.

"I just learned too much about that. I didn't want to do it," Almblad said.

Almblad did not start painting until 13 years ago, but his exposure to art was always constant in his life. His sister owned an art gallery in Detroit and when she had to relocate, Almblad took over.

"My entire family is artistic and I've always enjoyed paintings. But painting was a surprise to me, I used to just write poetry."

Now he creates a painting and writes a poem afterward to accompany it. Almblad does not paint on a structured schedule, just when the

urge hits.

"Painting is like a pregnant woman. It's giving birth to something. Every painting I do has a poem, a message. My paintings are reflections inside of me and I never know the outcome when I start."

Almblad also stains glass, but feels that staining is very technical and precise whereas painting is more inspirational. He performed in musicals for eight years when he traveled with his church group and in 1990 he had the lead in *Carousel*, a musical, in Bartlesville, Okla. He played the piano for 22 years and the trombone for 13. He is also a seasoned chef.

"He seems to be very multi-talented and he's always been very friendly to me," Administrative Assistant for Student Affairs Susan Sherry said.

In his early years in Detroit and Chicago, he worked in over 18 different restaurants and learned to make a

variety of different foods.

"I've traveled all my life and been exposed to all different kinds of foods. I would work at a restaurant for a little while, learn what I could, quit, go to another one and do the same thing."

Almblad also had catering businesses. The first one he owned for three years before he worked for Coronet and the second years later when he took a five-year break from his job and moved to Sante Fe. There he simultaneously ran a catering business and an art gallery. His time in Sante Fe led to the beginning of painting.

Almblad also attended a seminary for three semesters and considered becoming a preacher, but he decided it was not for him.

"I'm kind of like the lone ranger kind of guy. I don't like following religious or corporate rules. Me and God are tight, we hang out. I express my religion through painting."

His attendance at Avila's sporting events is more for the students than the love of the game.

"I'm not a sports fan as much as it's a Dad thing for me. I go to support the students who invite me to see them play. They support me here, I want to support them."

"I think it's really cool that he comes out and supports us at our games," freshman forward Ashley Drake said.

Almblad plans to stay in Kansas City as long as he can and possibly open up an art gallery here. However, mainly one look toward the future sticks out in his mind.

"I see little kids and think, ahhh... I want to get married and have a family. That's my final frontier."

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Manage the team! The Editor-in-Chief is responsible for managing the editorial staff and ensuring a production process goes according to schedule.

For more information, contact Steve Iliff in Dallavis 807 or call at 816-501-3763.





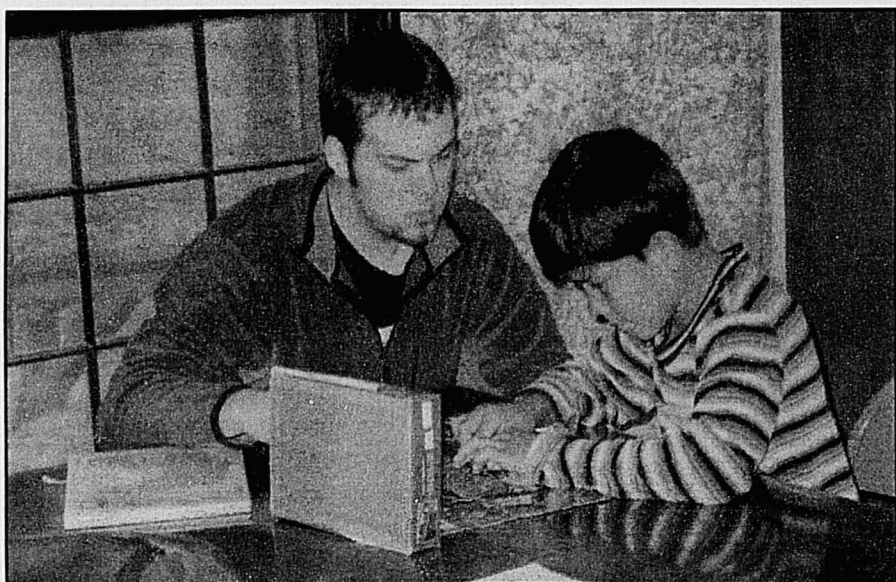
Students of the Peace Studies class pose for a group shot before leaving Jubilee Partners.



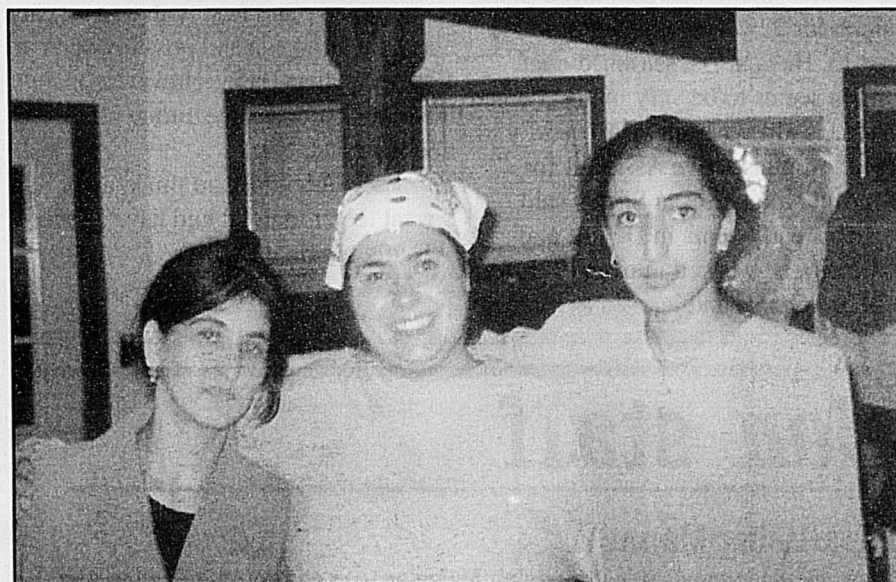
Jake Sanders and Kathryn Stasevich prepare a drainage ditch in the refugee housing area.



Jubilee Partner Will Winterfeld holds a photo at the peace rally.



Jake Sanders works on a puzzle with 10-year-old refugee from Afghanistan Fareed Ali.



Candace Burch takes a moment with Afghan refugees Shabeena Ayan and Sahar Mehrzad.



Paul Oxler visits Nafas Ayan at her temporary home in the refugee village.

## Peace studies takes

Shannon Degitz  
News Editor

Students from the interdisciplinary course, Peace Studies, spent Spring Break working at a refugee camp called Jubilee Partners. The refugee camp houses refugees who have been in danger in different countries and need a safe place to stay and learn the skills necessary to survive in the American culture.

Uncertainty, apprehension and anxiety were common feelings experienced by the students before the trip.

"As we were on our way, I was very nervous and did not know what to expect. I was worried about flying, but we made it there with no problems," junior Sifonya Moad said.

"I was a little apprehensive. We were not given amenities such as a TV, computer or radio, but it turned out to be the best experience of my life," junior Michaelle Tellis said.

"I was unsure about the trip. The group did not really know each other and there was a lot of complaining at first," junior Linda Singer said.

The students said they felt unwelcome at first because they arrived late and did not get a full tour of the place.

"We felt in the dark at first but after a day we immediately felt welcomed," Moad said.

"It was rainy and really crummy when we first arrived," Singer said. "A turning point was when we bonded as a group and got to know the refugees and the permanent volunteers."

Three families from Afghanistan and one family from Sudan are currently living at Jubilee Partners. One family had been trapped in dangerous and primitive camps for eight years. They did not have adequate food, water, shelter or medical care. The family lived everyday with the fear of being killed by an armed conflict, like the one that left 300 refugees dead. Another family lived for five

years in a refugee camp in northern Pakistan. They shared one room with their six children. Their two oldest sons have been missing during a flight for safety for years and have not been found. The family has no idea if their sons are still alive.

"This trip opened my eyes and broadened my horizons about other cultures," junior Dominique Bernal said. "Some of the refugees were willing to walk for 11 days just to be safe, not even knowing for sure what lay ahead. Many just left with the clothes on their back."

"This trip really emphasized to me the after effects of war and what violence can do to a family and to society. I can now learn to appreciate the fight and struggle people from other countries go through to just have something as little as a safe place to stay, food on their table and freedom," Tellis said.

Singer was touched by a refugee who was inquiring about the American customs.

"A man from Sudan, Michael, was interested in the idea of women having rights and being able to work. He said that in Sudan, any jobs went automatically to the men. It was hard for him to believe all of the opportunities that women are given. It was funny because when I asked him if he was excited, he said 'Oh yes! My wife can work while I go to school.' It was a foreign concept to him yet he thought it was wonderful," Singer said.

The trip required physical work. Some of the duties included working in the garden, pitching hay, painting, office work and laying newspaper to kill weeds.

"I did three jobs. I did carpentry work, garden work and I painted. I was very surprised because I was so inexperienced. The people there were very patient with me and did not get frustrated with how long it took for





Jubilee Partner Jennifer Smith talks with Afghan refugee Bakhtawar Ali and her 4-year-old son Farhad.



Megan Moon and Candace Burch entertain the children in the day care center.



Michaelle Tellis and Sifonya Moad pitch hay in the Jubilee Partners garden.

## trip to Jubilee Partners

me to catch on," Moad said.

"I never imagined that I would be working in fields while it poured rain or would be laying hay down in muddy fields," Bernal said. "I really enjoyed the work."

Students said spending time with the refugees made them realize how much they take for granted.

"In America, we are so materialistic. The refugees are trying to better themselves spiritually and by being able to work. They are trying to adjust to a life in which they will not have to worry about being persecuted for their religious beliefs or way of life. As Americans, we try to better ourselves by materialistic things," Bernal said

"The refugees are so eager to learn," Moad said. "You do not realize how much you have and take for granted until you are put into a situation where the people do not know what a TV is."

The students attended peace rallies, seminars and socials with the refugees. The seminars focused on the refugees, the death penalty and living in the Jubilee community.

"I participated in this rally called 'Women in Black,'" Singer said. "This was a silent vigil and from what I understood, it was mothers mourning for children that are victims of war. I have never participated in something like this but I thought that it was neat because I was making a statement. I want to continue to do it here in Kansas City. It started in Israel and they try to do the rally at the same time all over the world."

Jake Sanders, senior, was touched by a particular sign that he saw at a peace rally.

"The sign said 'Peace is a verb.' That was a statement that really took me aback and helped bring all the things that I had studied in class to a point," Sanders said.

Students were moved by the experi-

ences they encountered

"I have been to a lot of places around the country including Mexico and have done a lot of things but I would honestly say this was the best vacation of my life even though we worked hard," Tellis said.

"I still can't find the words to express how truly amazing all the refugee people were," Sanders said. "To see these people come from such miserable circumstances and be utterly happy is something that I will cherish, yet be completely dumbfounded over for a very long time."

Saying goodbye to the friendships that were formed and the culture that they learned so much about was difficult for many.

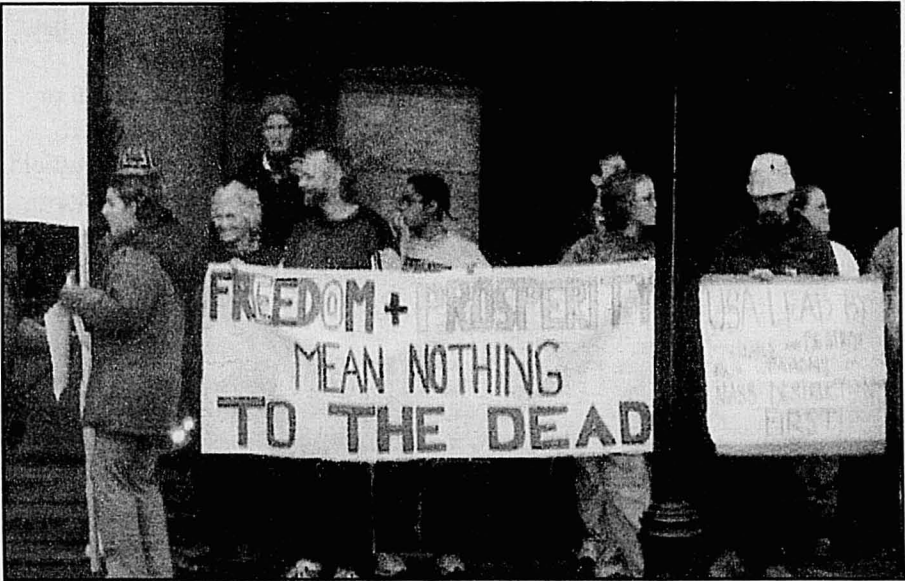
"I will never forget that at the end they sang for us and the expressions on their faces looked like they were hurting because we were leaving," Singer said.

The most memorable part of the trip was the friends we made with the refugees and the time we spent with them. I will never forget how incredible it was to interact with such an amazing group of people," Sanders said.

The trip was mandatory to pass the course but the students gained a much deeper understanding of a new culture and way of life.

"I cannot put the experience into words because no words could do justice to the impact the trip had on me. I really feel that you must experience it for yourself to fully understand how amazing the trip was. One thing that I learned was that if you feel strongly about something, you need to act on it and just talk about it. Act on your beliefs," Singer said.

Photos courtesy of Candace Burch, Carol Coburn, Kathryn Stasevich and Michaelle Tellis.



The students traveled to the University of Georgia campus in Athens, Ga. to attend and observe a peace rally the day after hostilities began in Iraq.



Refugees Christine Lopai from Sudan and Faheemah and Fareed Ali from Afghanistan pose for a picture in front of their cabin in the refugee center.



A Jubilee partner volunteer holds 2-year-old twins Opio and Jenet Lopai, refugees from Sudan.



## Senior Spotlight -Tobi Gill

Melishe' Ivey  
Sports Editor



E. Barnes

In addition to leading the softball team, Tobi Gill works as the Admission Office intern.

A line drive hit toward the gap in left field. Just when you think it is going to fall senior, Tobi Gill dashes in and makes a diving catch.

As a senior elementary education major, Gill specifically enrolled at Avila was for the education program. That was until she met former Head Softball Coach Dennis Gault.

Gault recruited Gill from Raymore Peculiar High School, in Raymore, Mo. He instantly became a role model for her until he died in November of 1999.

"He was a loving and caring coach. He made softball fun; it wasn't just about the game," Gill said.

Gill has played for Avila for four years. Her current position is left field although she has played outfield and shortstop since her freshman year.

Through every season, the atmos-

phere has been different. From new players to new coaches, Gill has remained optimistic and kept an open mind.

"The changes have made each of us more versatile. [The team] had to learn to accept different and new things. It forced us to take matters into our own hands," Gill said.

Gill is also active on the Avila campus. She has been an ambassador and admission intern for three years.

"Tobi exemplifies what ambassadors are suppose to be," Assistant Director of Admissions Jennifer Keeton said. "She represents Avila with a positive attitude."

Gill is known to be creative and proactive around the office.

"She is reliable and well informed about admissions. If anyone in the office needs help, she is always there," Admissions Representative

Patti Harper said.

Because of her position on the team and involvement with Avila, Gill is also a role model.

"The hardest thing about being a role model is managing my time between school, work, and practice," Gill said.

During tough times Gill can depend on two people: her parents.

"My parents are always there for me when I need them. That helps a lot. I can always go to my Mom when something is wrong and my dad is very supportive, especially when it comes to softball," Gill said.

While she is uncertain what her future holds, she wants to pursue a career in elementary education.

"I think that she has chosen a career that matches her personality, I have no doubt that she will be successful," Keeton said.

## Senior captains lead softball team

Dennys Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

The 2003 softball season has begun and the Avila women are off to a winning start.

According to freshman players, the team gets its motivation from the leadership on the field. Seniors Tobi Gill, Megan Palcher, Emilie Pierson and Cindy Thompson stand as captains as the season continues.

"Our desire and fire to win conference will not change, no matter what. We play hard every game until the last play," Gill, senior outfielder, said.

For the past few months, the team has been fighting injuries with key players.

"The team is lacking in depth in the pitching position due to injuries and illness to several of our starting pitchers," Amy Waltrip, freshman first base, said.

A critical setback to the team was when freshman pitcher Denisa Floyd, injured her knee before the season began. She will likely red shirt this season.

"The team is doing good on the

Melishe' Ivey  
Sports Editor

field, but I believe that more communication is needed to make the team stronger," Waltrip said.

The captains feel that the team is equally talented all around, but the strength is in their defense and hard hitting.

"We really don't have any standout player, because we all bring our own strengths to the team. A player that has stepped up defensively is sophomore shortstop Kelly Newberry, making incredible plays," Gill said.

The Lady Eagles are convinced that the 2003 season will be an emotional and exciting one.

"I've been here a few years and the tension of rivalry with other teams has been noticed. The most important rivalries to me are when we play Mid-America Nazarene and Lindenwood. I hate them with a passion, I cannot wait to play them," Emilie Pierson, senior outfielder, said.

## Wellness Day

Monday, April 7, 2003 11:00 - 1:00 p.m.  
in  
Marian Centre and Goppert Theatre

**FUN**

- 17 Booths
- Drawings
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- Activities
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**Sponsors: Health Services, Department of Nursing, Avila Student Nurses Organization, Wellness Committee, Disability Services, Radiological Science Club, Counseling Office**

Regular Sonic Burger  
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Medium Drink

**America's Drive In**

**Burger Combo \$2.49    Martin City Location Only**



## Eagles anticipate a winning record this season

Michael Charmant —  
Staff Writer

Melisse' Ivey —  
Sports Editor

During Spring Break, Avila's baseball team placed among the top 25 teams and ranked third in the region. The team took first place in a tournament at Ft. Myers, Fla.

The Eagles success was driven from team unity.

"In the last five games the team's chemistry has progressed greatly," Head Coach Ryan Howard said. "They are finally coming together and it is showing."

Howard is impressed by the team's winning record so far this season.

"If we keep this record up we will be fighting for the conference championship," Howard said.

The pitching staff earned run average 2.3. Junior pitchers Jason Ryerson, David Feliscian and Jason Andrade have aided the Eagles to a winning record.

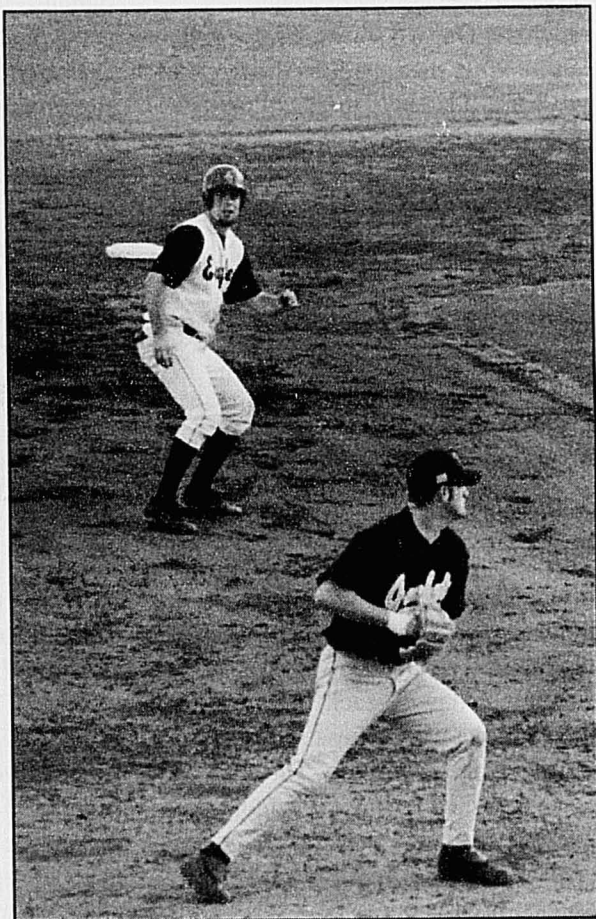
Among the Eagles rising stars is player of the week junior left fielder Kevin Henry and junior outfielder Omari Parker, whose batting average is .429.

"I just do my job and work hard to make as many plays as I can to put the team on top," Parker said.

The players are very confident and the intensity of practice has increased.

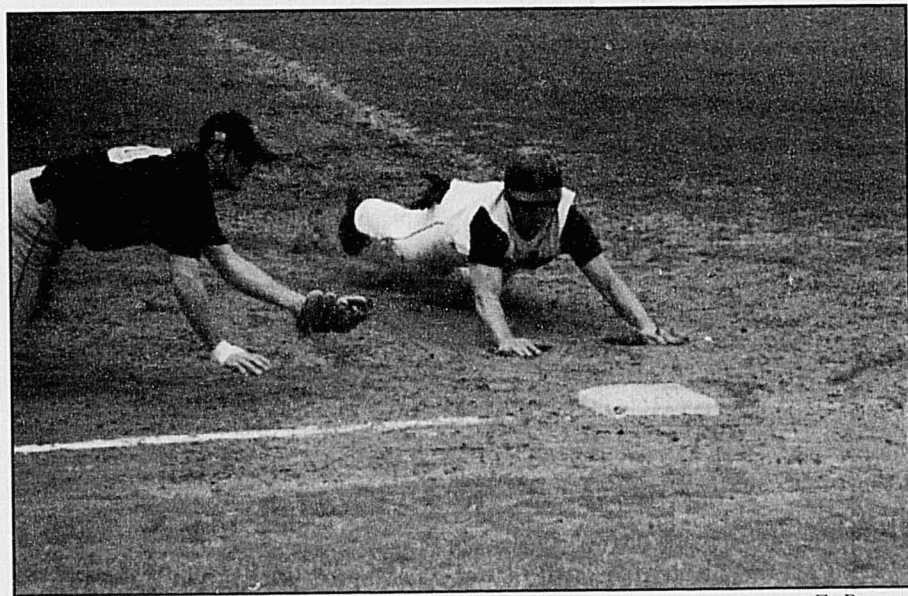
"I am basically going to try my best to keep the team in the game," Feliscian said.

The Eagles next game is April 5 at 1 p.m. against Lindenwood University.



E. Barnes

Junior Matt Shannon watches the shortstop make the play before running to third base.



E. Barnes

Avila runner dives into the base and avoids the tag.

## Jerry Krause named women's golf coach

Diane Euston —  
Staff Writer

Local golf guru Jerry Krause was recently named as Avila University's first women's golf coach.

The new coach was excited to jump at the opportunity of launching the newly formed program.

"The golf coach at UMKC mentioned the opportunity to me, and I decided to seriously check it out," Krause said.

Previously, Avila was the only local university on the NAIA level that did not have an existing women's golf team.

"We added women's golf to expand the athletic department," Mike Sharp, athletic director, said. "We were very excited when Jerry decided to take the job and launch the new team."

Krause is a long-standing member at Blue Hills Country Club, a member of the Kansas City Golf Association, Missouri Golf Association and is on the United States Golf Association committee. He also started several junior golf programs in Kansas City.

Although Krause has never coached a college team before, Sharp was very pleased when he read Krause's

when anyone may show interest in the golf program.

"We began the recruitment a little late, so it's been difficult to find girls so far," Krause said. "I've recruited some, and two girls have signed up."

The team will need a minimum of four players to start the first season. "Ideally, we'd like six to 10 girls," Krause said.

Krause will continue to recruit women for the team until the end of the summer.

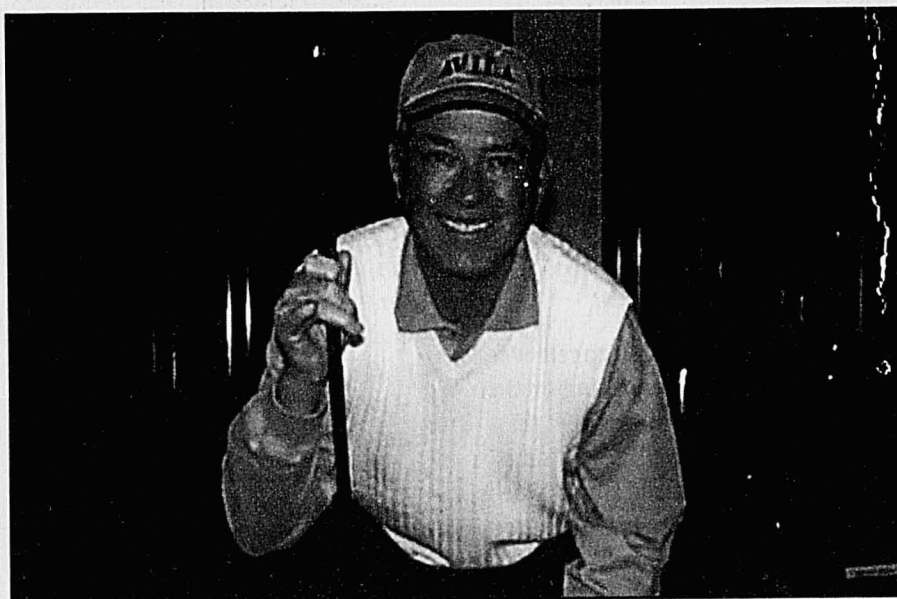
"Even though the golf season begins in the fall, many girls at area schools don't decide where they want to play until the summer," Krause said. "My goal is to get their attention."

Sharp remains positive about the future of the golf team.

"We'll just continue to make sure potential students know that women's golf is an option now," Sharp said.

Krause is ready to start up the fall season so he can work on the problem areas the team may have.

"Hopefully when the team is formed in the fall, we will be able to work successfully together," Krause said. "In the spring, regional tournaments



E. Barnes

Jerry Krause will lead the first season of women's golf which begins Fall of 2003.

qualifications.

"Jerry certainly has a wealth of knowledge and experience when it comes to golf. He came highly recommended," Sharp said.

The main objective for Krause is to search for players to start the first season.

"I've been looking for girls that may have qualified in high school for state championship, and also girls that may be playing golf at community colleges," Krause said.

Currently, the Admission Office informs the Athletic Department

will be going on, which will be really exciting."

Sharp is aware that the golf team may be weak at first.

"Just like any start-up team, it will take a while to get this program established. But, I know Jerry will do a great job," Sharp said.

Krause looks forward to the coming months.

"I know we will be just starting up, but we'll get better and better. For now, I can't wait until I have names on the roster," Krause said.



## Hilarity ensues in Goppert Theatre

Phillip Haislip  
Staff Writer

Great singing, dancing and sexual anecdotes. What more does one need in a performance? If this sounds good, come out and see *A Funny Thing Happened on The Way to the Forum*. This Stephen Sondheim original is the musical comedy presented by the Avila theater department.

Local theater professional Gene Mackey will direct the musical. He is the artistic director at The Theatre for Young America and brings much valuable experience to the Avila Theater Department. He also directed Avila's last musical, *South Pacific*.

*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* was a Broadway smash starring Nathan Lane. Lane played the role of Hysterium, which will be played by Brandon Carter. Hysterium is one of the funnier characters in this play.

"I enjoy watching the actors transform from the serious roles they had in *Dracula* into the more comedic roles they have in *Forum*," Mara Franke, the stage manager for this production and self-proclaimed reinforcer of the group, said.

Jason Harris is the technical director for this musical. This is his first time working with the Avila theater department. He is also the technical director for the Coterie Theatre inside of Crown Center. The set will have three large houses and a fountain in the middle. The play is set in Roman times so although the set is not as large as *Dracula* there will be many entrances and exits.

Acting majors as well as musical theater majors will come together for the show. Actors are working on their singing individually to make it the best possible. Although rehearsal is only four weeks instead of six weeks because of Spring Break and Easter, performers are sure to be ready for the musical, which opens April 24, and plays through April 26 at 8 p.m. On April 27, there will be a 2 p.m. matinee. All performances will be held in Goppert Theatre. Avila students can call the box office to reserve two free tickets at (816)-501-3699.

## Music review

The "Little Folksinger," Ani DiFranco, *Evolves*

Rachel Murphy  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The wildly prolific Ani DiFranco has established herself as the folk chanteuse of the late/early millennium, producing at least ten albums in as many years. She even went so far as to start her own record company, Righteous Babe Records. She has become the poster child of an angry feminist. She is not a pretty girl, just an extremely photogenic one. With her latest offering, *Evolve*, she continues this theme and expands it, taking on new layers of instrumentation. Leaving behind the bare guitar picking that she has become known for, she embraces other instruments, such as brass, woodwind and organ.

Although the background of the music has been slightly modified, DiFranco's stream of consciousness singing style remains the same. One

is reminded of 1970s Joni Mitchell as her voice trips over words up and down the scale from high to low and from whisper to growl. Her lyrics have changed as well, alternating songs about women in bad relationships (*In the Way*) to songs about love (*Oh My My*), but never in a sappy or remotely happy way. No, she still relishes the wallow in angst that made Jewel popular and that sells millions of records to disenfranchised teenagers every year.

A recurring theme in this particular album is that of the government, the war, and the American ideal, one that DiFranco obviously does not approve. On two songs, *Evolve* and *Serpentine*, she mentions the threat of war. She alludes to the fact that religious extremism is the cause, but does not say whose, theirs or ours.

*Serpentine* is really the topper. In the ten minute diatribe on everything that is wrong with America, she hits on everything: the press, the war and most hypocritically, capitalism. The lyric, "Cuz the profit system follows the path of least resistance . . . capitalism is the devil's wet dream" is particularly damning.

Overall, the music, while technically impressive, has a sameness from song to song that makes them hard to distinguish between. And although DiFranco claims in *Phase*, "and I ain't the type to bitch/I ain't the type to cry" she seems to spend nearly 70 minutes doing just that. If capitalism is the devil's wet dream, then DiFranco should wipe herself off and start giving away her albums instead of charging \$15 for a compact disc that costs \$1.75 to produce.

## Film review: *Dreamcatcher*

Featuring: Morgan Freeman, Jason Lee, Damien Lewis, Thomas Jane, Timothy Olyphant, Tom Sizemore, Donnie Wahlberg

Written by William Goldman Directed by Lawrence Kasdan

Rachel Murphy  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

To many, Stephen King means fear, trembling, and sweaty palms. After viewing his most recent screen adaptation, *Dreamcatcher*, it will mean something different—toilet humor, shoddy writing and halfhearted acting. This film is a prime example of the current trend of under-utilizing capable actors in sub-par scripts.

The story starts simply. Four best friends rescue a Down syndrome child from a humiliating experience with the football bullies. The five boys become friends and protectors of the disabled child, named Duddits. This is the beginning of a unique relationship, one that would allow Duddits to give them the power of telepathy. They remain friends into adulthood.

Flash forward to present day. All four of the men are leading troubled

lives. They are dealing with alcoholism, suicide and the difficulties of dating in their 30s.

They reconvene each year in a cabin in the woods for some hunting, drinking and relaxation. This all changes when a stranger is found in the woods. He is sick from eating some berries in the woods, or so he thinks. It turns out to be—you guessed it—an alien in his stomach. Suddenly the world is in danger and the four best friends must save it from an alien inside one of their heads. From there, it dissolves from hokey buddy movie to an insanely stupid U.S. Army against the aliens movie.

As far as production, the opening credits were by far the most interesting cinematography in the film. The music was forgettable. The acting was not horrible, but it left plenty to be desired. Morgan Freeman was

chewing the scenery as a half-crazed Colonel Kurtz hell-bent on taking out the alien threat. It makes one wonder whether King was making a reference to *Apocalypse Now*'s crazy Col. Kurtz played stunningly by Marlon Brando. If so, it was a pale shadow of that character. Tom Sizemore plays a generic Capt. Underhill who has to make the tough calls in regards to Col. Kurtz. The only acting coup in the entire film was from Donnie Wahlberg as the adult Duddits, who is unrecognizable and brilliant as an adult Down syndrome patient.

Both the writer and director have Oscar nominations from much better films. My only hope is that there was a logical reason for this gaff in their careers, such as a potential hostage situation if they did not participate. Anything less severe is just bad judgment on their parts.

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## Immaturity reigns at Avila

Jamie Cox  
Staff Writer

Welcome to college, kids, you are in for a real treat. The next four years of your lives will be full of ups and downs, good times and bad, but most of all...growth. After four years of fine tuning and polishing you will leave Avila as proud products of the institution, and you will represent it well...at least some of you will.

Immaturity seems to be running rampant across the Avila campus lately. We witness it everyday, from that one smart-ass who seems to pop up in all of our classes, even to the childlike behavior of some faculty and staff. The levels of maturity that some people possess are appalling.

This was made clear to me as I attended a recent performance of the Avila theater production *Dracula*. I was fully prepared to be engaged in the show until the lights came down. Instead of the production, it was the acts of some so-called college students that consumed my attention.

Behind my friends and me, sat a row of students more interested in getting whatever extra credit they may have been receiving than paying attention to what was on the stage before them. Constant chatter raised

numerous hushes from other audience members, yet they still did not get it.

It was two individuals in particular who took the cake that night. One continued to answer a cell phone throughout the performance and was absolutely rude even after being asked politely to turn it off during the intermission. Another individual seemed so desperate for attention that he not only loudly made uneducated remarks about the show, he also felt the need to once again draw attention to themselves as he unnecessarily yelled at cast members.

Who do these people think they are?

I am not saying that I have never had an immature time in my life, but the actions made on this particular evening were so above and beyond what is acceptable that it is mind-blowing.

Grow up, kids. There is a big world out there that is just waiting to chew you up and spit you out. Some will fail and those with a good head on their shoulders will succeed. The only question is, which one do you intend to be?

## Binge drinking is unnecessary

Jessica Collins  
Staff Writer

Imagine lying in bed at night only to be awakened by students who are arguing in the parking lot having just arrived home from a Saturday night party.

A few weekends ago this very incident happened to me. I tried to ignore the arguing but could not sleep, so I looked out the window to see what was going on. I saw the students stumbling over their feet and slurring all of their words. I saw one student knock the other student down with one punch. I know these students and know they are friends. So why would they be fighting? One student repeatedly hit the other student, but finally, the hurt student got up, excessively drunk and stumbled inside with blood pouring out of his nose.

Incidents like this happen all across the United States at many universities and colleges.

Harvard University's School of Public Health surveyed 130 college students for an alcohol study and found that two out of every five college students engage in binge drinking and that alcohol is the number one drug problem among young people.

Students complain about the outrageous costs of books, but the study found that each year students spend more than \$5.5 billion on alcohol, more than they spend on soft drinks, tea, milk, coffee or books combined.

It is outrageous to think that students are spending this much money on alcohol. Binge drinking is an unnecessary activity. With the cost of alcohol so high, why can students not just have one drink instead of 15?

The Harvard study also found that college presidents ranked binge drinking as the most serious problem on campus due to the number of violent acts committed while students were under the influence of alcohol.

According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, "Scientist and nonscientist alike have long recognized a two-way association between alcohol consumption and vio-

lent or aggressive behavior. Alcohol may encourage aggression or violence by disrupting normal brain function. Alcohol weakens brain mechanisms that normally restrain impulsive behaviors, including inappropriate aggression."

Intoxication alone does not cause violence; people rarely increase their aggression unless they feel threatened or provoked.

"The effect of alcohol on higher brain functions reduce the number of cues to understanding a situation which the intoxicated person is unable to perceive. It affects how the person reacts to actions of others that may appear unreasonable, while impairing usual coping mechanisms," Professor Robert Nash Parker at the University of California said.

"Feelings about power and control also help link intoxication and violent incidents," Parker said.

Research in the United States shows that men drink primarily to feel stronger and that alcohol increases thought of social and personal power. This has been linked to impaired perceptions, which can suddenly appear out of control.

At many college parties an individual will say something that will trigger a violent response from an intoxicated individual who, if not intoxicated, would perhaps just shrug off the statement. Reports show that nearly one in ten male college students consume 21 or more drinks per week. Of these drunk men, some were bound to become violent.

Students need to realize that their actions may have consequences that may not only affect themselves, but also affect other people around them. Binge drinkers need to be aware that they may not be in control of the situations around them. Something or someone can trigger violent behavior in a non-aggressive individual.

It only takes one hit to kill a person. A night of fun accompanied by excessive alcohol consumption, can leave people with deadly consequences that may last a lifetime.

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## Staff Editorial: If you do not like it here, leave

Here on campus students can often be heard complaining about how there is nothing to do at here and how they are not happy with the school. What students do not seem to realize is that Avila continually expands and moves forward in the competitive university market.

Avila has recently added three new sports teams, expanded the

Eagles Nest Recreation Center and remodeled the bookstore. Most of these changes have happened in the last two years. However, it seems that no matter what Avila does to improve both its campus and the campus environment, students still seem to feel the need to complain.

Avila is a unique school, in more ways than one. Because of the school's small population, students are able to easily meet new people, their instructors know them by name and each department boasts a close-

knit group of students and teachers. These are not the types of environments that students are going to find at other colleges where classroom size can be anywhere from 50 to 500. It is true that Avila may not be able to offer some of the things that larger state universities might offer, due to land space, funding, or current structural abilities. However, those students who feel that Avila does not have enough to offer them are free to leave. With good enough grades most students should be able to transfer to the college of their choice. No one is forcing anyone to stay at Avila, and no one demanded that a student attend a school that they did not wish to attend.

The students at Avila who appreciate what they have, enjoy the small classrooms, personal attention and benefits of a smaller school. Students here value one-on-one time with instructors. Yes, the Avila campus

could use some of those large university benefits. The bottom line is that Avila is special and has more to offer students who want to succeed in college than those who want to spend their college years partying and regurgitating information on multiple choice tests. Avila is a school that caters to students who want to achieve their goals, succeed in the classroom and meet people. We may not be hosting keg parties at fraternity houses every weekend, but those schools are a dime a dozen and if students do not like what Avila has to offer, or do not see the opportunities that lie in front of them, they are adults who are free to leave at any time.

No, Avila is not like other schools, and the best part about it is that it does not want to be. If someone cannot see that about this truly unique school, no one is stopping them from leaving.

## Campus Talk

*How do you feel about those people protesting the war?*



"I think it is your freedom to protest. You have freedom of speech, you have your rights. In some ways I am against the war and in some ways I am for the war. I have friends and family that are over there fighting it. So I just think honestly it is your right [to protest]."

**Julie Shibley, Senior**



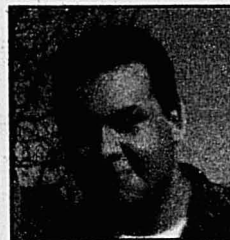
"I think that it is your right to protest. On the other hand we are already at war, so the continuing protests regarding let's not go to war is a little late."

**Emily Leedy, Senior**



"It is very important that people speak their conscience, especially in this country. Especially in this situation, the church has spoken out strongly against the war and I think people need to speak that voice."

**Dave Armstrong, Director of Campus Ministry**



"The rights we fight to preserve are the same rights that a lot of people allow people to say whatever they please. That is the great thing about America. Whether it is right or wrong in other people's eyes it is our right. It is not my decision to say whether or not it is right or wrong."

**Steve Castro, Sophomore**



"I do not mind the protesters. I can see they are against the war [but] the burning of the flag is completely wrong. They can protest all they want. That does not mean we are going to pull out of Iraq just because they are over here burning flags."

**Amanda Boyer, Sophomore**



"I think that this is not the time to protest against the war because of the troops and everyone that is over there fighting. We have to stay united. At the same time I understand the protesters' side because war is never an answer. I believe that in my heart because I am a religious guy. I really think that war is not the answer, and I understand why people protest, but we need to stay united because if we don't we will fall."

**Terrell Tigner, Resident Director of Ridgeway Hall and Coordinator of Intramurals**

Is there a topic that matters to you? Do you have a question you want answered or a comment about something happening at Avila? We want to know! E-mail the Opinions Editor at beccas43@hotmail.com.

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